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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 17, 1994

A11A

Presidential Determination  
No. 94-35

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Determination Pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the  
Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as  
Amended

Pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2601(C)(1), I hereby determine that it is important to the national interest that up to \$15,000,000 be made available from the U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund to meet the unexpected, urgent needs of refugees, returnees, and conflict victims from Rwanda and Burundi. These funds may be contributed to international, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, as appropriate.

You are authorized and directed to inform the appropriate committees of the Congress of this determination and the obligation of funds under this authority and to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

*William J. Clinton*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY:  
EDWARD W. HOLMES

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JUSTIFICATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION AUTHORIZING  
THE USE OF UP TO \$19,000,000 FROM THE  
UNITED STATES EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE FUND

Under section 2(c)(1) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2601(c)(1), the President may authorize the furnishing of assistance from the United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund (the Fund) to meet "unexpected urgent refugee and migration" needs whenever he determines it is "important to the national interest" to do so. A drawdown from the Fund of up to \$19,000,000 is required to respond to unexpected urgent needs of refugees, returnees, and conflict victims from Rwanda and Burundi. This drawdown furthers the U.S. national interest by providing humanitarian support where it is urgently needed and counters further regional instability.

To date as many as 500,000 people have been killed and up to 2 million people have been displaced in Rwanda. Since April, some 540,000 Rwandan refugees have sought safety in neighboring countries. Of the over 600,000 Burundi refugees from the October 1993 coup attempt in Burundi, the 300,000 who had sought refuge in Rwanda have now been scattered by the Rwandan conflict. Taking into account Rwandan and Burundi refugees and returnees generated since last October, urgent assistance for over one million refugees is required at present.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is coordinating basic emergency assistance to Rwandan and Burundi refugees throughout the region and estimates its needs during 1994 to be over \$150,000,000. The World Food Program (WFP) is providing food aid to refugees, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is assisting displaced persons in Rwanda and Burundi. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), with local Red Cross societies, is providing critical relief in Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zaire. Also, many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are working with the refugees.

The urgent needs of Burundi and Rwandan refugees, returnees, and conflict victims could not be foreseen when the fiscal year 1994 budget was prepared. A drawdown of up to \$19,000,000 is proposed to respond to these urgent requirements. Funds may be contributed to international, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, as appropriate.

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